

**To:** CN=David Jewett/OU=ADA/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]  
**Cc:** []  
**From:** CN=Randall Ross/OU=ADA/O=USEPA/C=US  
**Sent:** Fri 8/10/2012 4:23:45 PM  
**Subject:** Re: GAO Report Review

Greetings Dave,

I have transcribe the entire section. Here it is:

#### Ongoing Studies Related to Water Quality

Ongoing studies by federal agencies, industry groups, and academic institutions are evaluating the effects of hydraulic fracturing on water resources so that over time, better data and information about these effects should become available to policy makers and the public. For example, EPA's Office of Research and Development initiated a study in January 2010 to examine the potential effects of hydraulic fracturing on drinking water resources. According to agency officials, the agency anticipates issuing a progress report in 2012 and a final report in 2014. EPA is also conducting an investigation to determine the presence of groundwater contamination above a tight sandstone formation being developed for natural gas near Pavillion, Wyoming, and to the extent possible identify the source of the contamination. In December 2011, EPA released a draft report outlining findings from the investigation. The report is not finalized, but the agency indicated that it had identified certain constituents in the groundwater above the production zone of the Pavillion natural gas wells that are consistent with some of the constituents used in natural gas well operations, including the process of hydraulic fracturing. DOE researchers are also testing whether hydraulic fracturing fluids can travel thousands of feet through geologic faults into water aquifers close to the surface. In addition, the American Petroleum Institute - in coordination with other trade organizations - is studying the potential effects of hydraulic fracturing on drinking water resources that will mirror EPA's review.

Cheers,  
r^3

-----  
Randall R. Ross, PhD  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
National Risk Management Research Laboratory  
Ground Water and Ecosystems Restoration Division  
Applied Research and Technical Support Branch  
P.O. Box 1198 / 919 Kerr Research Dr.  
Ada, OK 74820  
580-436-8611 voice / 580-436-8614 fax  
Email: ross.randall@epa.gov  
-----

**From:** David Jewett/ADA/USEPA/US  
**To:** Randall Ross/ADA/USEPA/US@EPA  
**Date:** 08/10/2012 09:37 AM  
**Subject:** Re: GAO Report Review

Randall,

Thanks for the heads up. All I have is my Bb (laptop ran out of juice and charger is in Ada) and can't view the screen shot. Anyway could you cut & paste the text about Pavillion into an email? Could you also

provide some context on how the text is used (that is, what the GAO document is implying by referencing Pavillion)? I would definitely like mgmt above me to be aware of this.

- dgj -

Sent by EPA Wireless E-Mail Services